

Section 2: Standard References

The following list of references are the standards to be used by the department. Each reference addresses a different area, such as correct common and scientific names of species, spelling, or word usage. Always use the latest edition available.

2.1 General References

These references provide information that is customarily, though not exclusively, applicable to our writing.

a. Spelling

The standards for word definition and spelling are: (1) *Random House*; (2) *Webster's New Third International Dictionary*; and (3) *The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language*. The latter will be followed for the majority opinion.

b. Word Usage

The Gregg Reference Manual (McGraw-Hill Book Company), edited by William Sabin and now in its 8th edition, is the field standard for style, usage, and grammar. Another useful reference is *The Chicago Manual of Style* (The University of Chicago Press), which is the standard used by the *Council of Biology Editors* and editors of the *Gregg Reference Manual*.

c. Scientific Reporting

Now in its 6th edition, *Scientific Style and Format* (Council of Biology Editors, Inc.), formerly the *CBE Manual*, is an excellent reference for questions related to scientific usage and preparing publications.

2.2 Technical References

The following references are to be used exclusively as final authority for common and scientific names of fauna and flora and for placenames in Alaska.

a. Fish Species

Common and Scientific Names of Fishes from the United States and Canada (5th edition), 1991, American Fisheries Society, Special Publication 20, will be followed for both scientific and common names of fishes, as well as for correct capitalization of names. For fish species of Alaska, refer to the list in Section 9.4 of this manual.

b. Aquatic Invertebrate Species

Common and Scientific Names of Aquatic Invertebrates from the United States and Canada: Mollusks, 2nd edition, American Fisheries Society, Special Publication 26; and *Common and Scientific Names of Aquatic Invertebrates from the United States and Canada: Decapod Crustaceans*, American Fisheries Society, Special Publication 17, are the standards for scientific and common names of aquatic invertebrates, as well as for the correct capitalization of names. For invertebrate species of Alaska, refer to the list in Section 9.4 of this manual.

c. Bird Species

For birds of Alaska, use the list in Section 9.5 of this manual. For non-Alaskan bird species, use the *Checklist of North American Birds*, prepared by the Committee on Classification and Nomenclature of the American Ornithologists' Union, Sixth Edition (American Ornithologists' Union 1983). This is the standard used for the spelling of bird names. However, we do not follow their practice of capitalizing all common names of birds; instead, we follow the widespread nomenclatural custom using capitals for only that part of a common name that is an established proper name (e.g., Pacific loon, common loon).

d. Mammal Species

For mammals of Alaska, use the list in Section 9.6 of this manual. For non-Alaskan mammals, use *Mammal Species of the World* (1993, Smithsonian Institution Press) by D. E. Wilson and D. M. Reeder. This is the stan-

dard used for scientific and vernacular names of wildlife. Although capitalization assistance is not offered by this book, we follow the widespread nomenclatural custom using capitals for only that part of a common name that is an established proper name (e.g., Sitka black-tailed deer, mule deer).

e. Plant Species

Flora of Alaska and Neighboring Territories, A Manual of the Vascular Plants (Stanford University Press, Stanford, California) by Eric Hultén is the standard for scientific names of plants.

f. Placenames

Dictionary of Alaska Place Names (U.S. Geological Survey Professional Paper 567, Reprinted 1971 with minor revisions) by Donald J. Orth is recognized by ADF&G as the standard for placenames within Alaska.

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